



**Kurt E. Floren**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

### Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights and Measures

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**Richard K. Iizuka**  
Chief Deputy

DATE: August 8, 2018

TO: Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Chair, Third District  
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, First District  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District  
Supervisor Janice Hahn, Fourth District  
Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Fifth District

FROM: Kurt E. Floren  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures

SUBJECT: **ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY ERADICATION IN SAN PEDRO**

Three (3) sexually mature male specimens of Oriental Fruit Fly (OFF), a major agricultural pest, have been detected in San Pedro and Rolling Hills. The first was found Friday, July 20, 2018 in San Pedro; the second, also in San Pedro, less than two miles away, on Tuesday, July 24, 2018; the third was found Friday, July 27, 2018 in the City of Rolling Hills. These detections indicate the existence of an infestation that warrants immediate actions proven effective in preventing the growth and spread of pest infestations, protecting backyard fruit, community gardens, and California's highly-valued and critical commercial agriculture.

A "male attractant" technique (MAT) is to be employed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). MAT consists of using an OFF pheromone, which attracts male flies to a "bait station." Presenting no inconvenience to community members, this highly-effective process consists of squirting a small spot of bait onto streetside tree trunks, with approximately 600 such bait stations placed eight to ten feet up on trees in each square mile of the treatment area, extending through a 1.5-mile radius from the detection sites (**see attached map**). Male flies are attracted to the pheromones, feed on the bait, and are killed by a small amount of Spinosad pesticide in the bait, thereby interrupting the species' reproductive cycle. CDFA plans to initiate treatments promptly (as soon as today) and will repeat treatments at two-week intervals for at least six sessions.

Mated female Oriental Fruit Flies deposit eggs into host fruits and vegetables and resulting maggots make the produce unfit for consumption. OFF is known to target over 230 different fruit, vegetable and plant commodities commonly grown in home gardens as well as commercial agriculture, including apples, apricots, avocados, bell peppers, cherries, figs, grapes, grapefruits, lemons, limes, melons, nectarines, oranges, peaches, pears, persimmon, plums, pomegranates, tangerines, tomatoes and walnuts. The diversity of trees and fruits targeted by OFF makes this exotic fruit fly a most serious and damaging agricultural pest.

We are informing staff from the City of Los Angeles, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hill Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Lomita, Neighborhood Councils, and your Board offices in the treatment area to aid staff in answering questions from the public.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

August 8, 2018

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Residents with concerns or questions about this or any exotic pest can call the CDFA Pest Hotline at 1-800-491-1899.

I will continue to update you as details become available and warrant an update

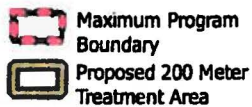
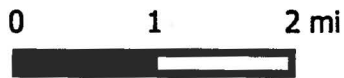
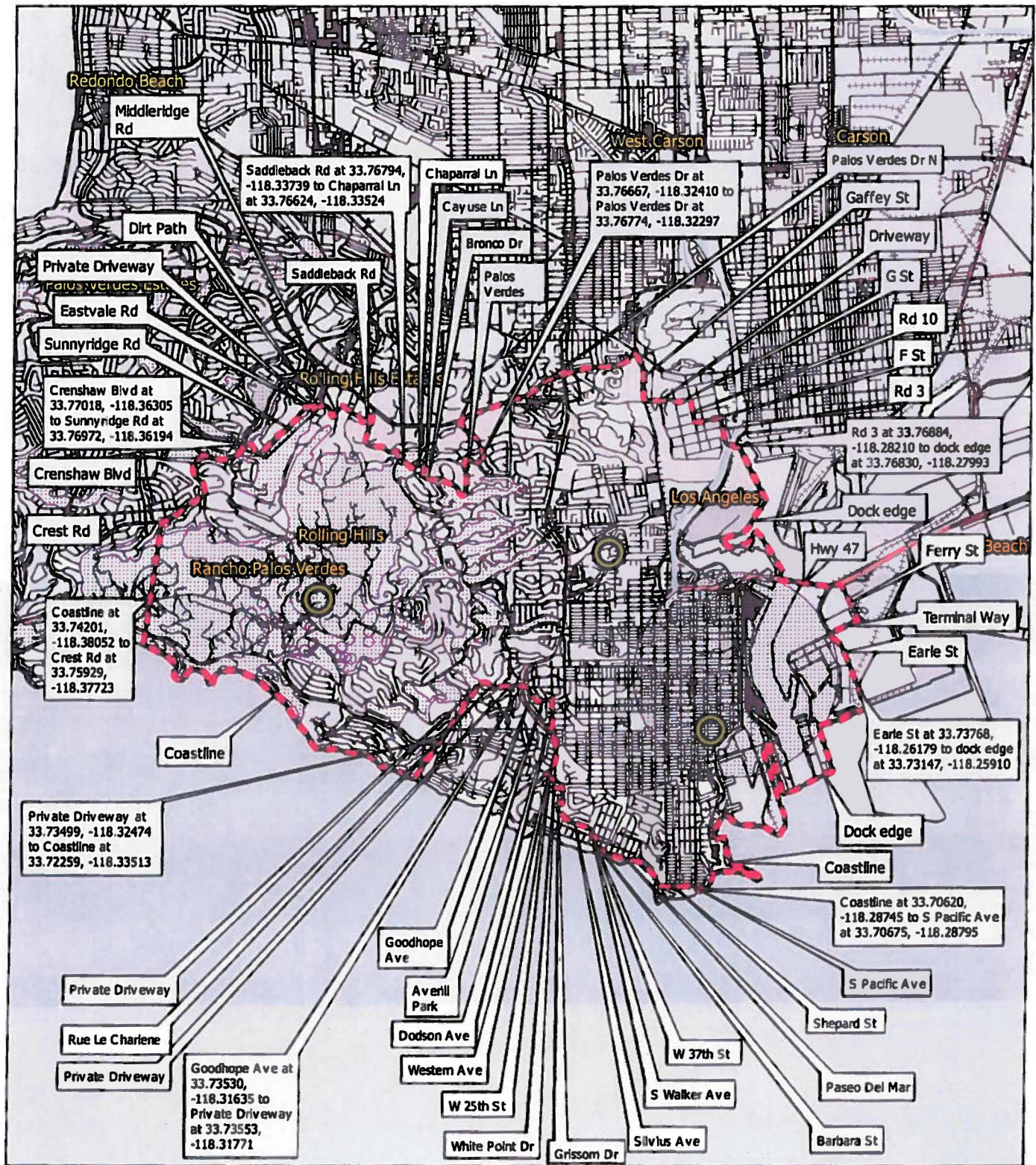
KEF:kp

Attachment

c: Sachi Hamai, Chief Executive Officer  
Celia Zavala, Acting Executive Officer  
Chia-Ann Yen, Community Services Manager  
Board Deputies



# Oriental Fruit Fly Eradication Project San Pedro, Los Angeles County 2018



Sensitive Environmental  
Area/Treatment  
Mitigations In Place

